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## Only a Passing Thought.

'Twas only a passing thought, my friend,  
Only a passing thought.  
That came o'er my mind like a ray of the sun  
In the ripple of waters caught;  
And it seemed to me, as I say to thee,  
That sorrow, and shame, and sin,  
Might disappear from our happy sphere,  
If we knew but how to begin—  
If we knew but how to profit  
By wisdom dearly bought:  
'Twas only a passing thought, my friend,  
Only a passing thought.

Why should the nation fight, my friend,  
Why should not warfare cease?  
And all the world would repose  
In innocence and peace.  
It seems to me, as I say to thee,  
The weak may yet be strong;  
There needs but the love of breath and faith  
To right the weary wrong—  
To right the weary wrong, my friend,  
Throughout the world mistaught;  
'Twas only a passing thought, my friend,  
Only a passing thought.

But though only a passing thought, my friend,  
You know as well as I  
That thoughts have a fashion to grow to deeds  
Under the ripening sky.  
So pass it on; let it walk or run,  
Or fly on the wings of the wind,  
Or, better still, on the wings of the Press,  
For the service of mankind;  
For the service of mankind, my friend,  
That needs to be taught:  
'Twas only a passing thought, my friend,  
Only a passing thought.

## A Sugar Plantation.

A party of Americans in Cuba, visited a sugar plantation. One of the party says: A turn in the road suddenly brought us in view of the cane field with the hands at work. Men, women, and children, negroes, and coolies, the men naked except as to the loins, were toiling amid the stalks, laying them low with each blow of the sickle. At distances of a few rods, figures in broad-brimmed hats, sat silently on horseback, with their long-lashed whips lying across the saddles before them. These were the drivers, and their business was to see that the slaves lagged not in their labor. The place we visited was called Santa Rosa. It belongs to a son of the late Senor Aldama, President of the Cuban Junta in New York, and is under seizure, and run by the government. An administrator appointed by the civil authorities is in charge, and occupies the fine mansion of the Aldamas with his own family. He is a Spaniard.

The administrator abandoned the breakfast-table when our party arrived, and after reading the letter of introduction politely offered to become our cicerone himself. Sugar making, though somewhat complicated in its various processes of grinding, boiling, refining, &c., is very simple in theory. The cane just cut on the plantation is carted to the grinding or mashing mill, through which it passes thoroughly pressed, the refuse being thrown out one way, while the juice runs into troughs, which convey it to the boiling-kettles. After going through the boiling operation the syrup is transferred to pans to cool and drain, and in time it hardens into sugar. It is ground to the pulverized state by another machine, and worked over by the laborers with hoes and scrapers before being finally put into hogheads. The boiling stage is not calculated to impress the visitor with a favorable idea of the cleanliness of his coffee sweeteners. Negroes nearly naked and reeking with perspiration, trample over the sugar in their bare feet. "I know now," shrieked a lady of the party "Where the toe nails come from which we find in our brown sugar at home." Alas! it is too true. But then how unhappy we would all be if we knew exactly how everything we eat is prepared, and is it not better that we shut our eyes to the stern facts and accept the legendary "peck" without a murmur. There are about five hundred hands employed on the Aldama estate, 20 per cent. of them being coolies. They are worked sixteen hours per day during the gathering and grinding season. Sunday is a partial holiday. The finer work in the mill is done by the Chinamen. A Boston engineer has charge of the machinery, and there is another foreigner in the same department, an Englishman. The machinery is new and costly, and has the imprint of English and American makers.

AN EAGLE ATTEMPTS TO KIDNAP A CHILD.—Jacob Decker, living near Rhode Lake, N. Y., has a little daughter about three years of age. One day while she was playing in the yard, her shouts attracted her mother. Going out Mrs. Decker found a large eagle attempting to carry off the little one. Almost frantic with fright, she seized the child and rushed toward the house. No sooner had she caught the child in her arms than the eagle showed fight. It followed Mrs. Decker, pecking savagely at the child, several times touching her hair with its beak; but by running rapidly and shielding the child as best she could, she managed to reach the house in safety. Enraged at being thus cheated of its prey, the eagle flew against the door and beat furiously at the windows, as if determined to effect an entrance, until Mrs. Decker, fearing it might break in, hid her child in a closet for greater security. At night the bird flew away. Early the next morning the eagle again made its appearance. After flying wildly around, it perched upon a tree near the house, apparently awaiting an opportunity to renew the attack. As soon as she discovered the bird, Mrs. Decker notified the neighbors, and it was shot. It proved to be an American eagle, measuring seven feet between the tips of its wings.

## Limiting Apprentices.

From an article in the *Penn Monthly*, it appears that there are but 3,000 apprentices among 92,112 journeymen, distributed in 8,000 establishments. This is but one apprentice to every 2-1/2 shops and every 26 workmen. There are at the same time 22,000 youths in the city between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one, and it is maintained that many of these are debarred from getting employment by the injudicious action of the trades' unions in placing a limitation upon the number of apprentices. In Philadelphia, boys are forbidden employment in newspaper offices, and in hat and shoe factories; bricklayers and plasterers also reject them, and mouldeers allow but one apprentice to each shop, and one to every ten men after. Other trades also carry out this ostracism to a greater or less extent.

The same system prevails in all the chief cities of the United States, and is denounced by the employers as an unwarranted dictation and as of evil to society by debarring boys from acquiring a means of support, and leaving them exposed to the temptations that accompany an idle life. The journeymen maintain that the limiting of apprentices is justified by circumstances; that the number allotted furnishes sufficient raw material, and point to the multitude of unemployed workmen as evidence that the labor market is not suffering from depletion, but the contrary. Such being the case, they hold that society would not be benefited by an increase of apprentices but injured, as men, with families dependent upon them, must be put aside to make room for the increased quantity of apprentices.

It is possible, from the understood dislike of large numbers of American boys to handicraft employment, that the reputed evils attending the limiting of apprentices may be exaggerated; but there can be only one opinion among disinterested persons as to the selfishness of the policy of the trades societies. Boys have prerogatives as well as men, and among them is the right to work, and any attempt to obstruct them in its exercise cannot be defended upon any sound grounds. The fears of the evils of an overstocked labor market have not much weight in a country like ours; but, under any circumstances, there would be no justification for dictating to a boy whether he shall live by his own labor or not, or in prescribing to an employer how many apprentices he shall employ. It is not only a violation of the laws of political economy, but a trespass upon the constitutional rights of the citizen.

HOW A PRESIDENT IS ELECTED.—Each of the United States is entitled to as many electors of President and Vice-President as it has Senators and Representatives in Congress. In each State the electors are chosen by a plurality vote. That is, if there are three sets of electors vote for, the set having the highest number of votes is chosen. But a candidate for President, in order to be successful, must have a majority of all the electors. The electoral college, as now constituted, consists of 317. Therefore 159 are necessary for a choice. If there be three candidates for President and neither of them receives a majority of the electoral college, then there is no choice, and the election goes to the House of Representatives. The House must confine their choice to the three highest candidates voted for by the electors. The Representatives vote by States, and each State has but one vote; so that the power of Delaware is as great as that of New York. Each State has one vote. The majority of the State delegation casts its vote. A candidate, to be successful, must receive a majority of all the States, or nineteen States. If the delegation is divided, the vote of the state cannot be cast, and is therefore lost. As the present House is constituted, and it is upon this House the election will devolve in the event there is no election by the people, nominally the Republicans hold twenty States; but its majority in ten of these it holds by one single vote. Should there be a third candidate there would be no choice found in two of these ten States.

DOGS.—The sense of duty seems to be very strong in dogs, and the perseverance with which a dog will perform a self-imposed task, day after day, fainting that it is his mission, is sometimes very amusing. There is a dog in New York that every day follows a Broadway omnibus plying between some up-town street and the Battery. His business is to keep as near the omnibus as possible, and this he does with wonderful zeal and often at the risk of his life. Sometimes, when the street is very much cumbered with vehicles, he takes to the sidewalk along which he cautions on three legs—an affection common to his kind—stopping when the driver stops to take up passengers, and seeming to take as much interest in the business as though he were a stockholder of the line. This animal has frequently been run over, as is evident from his scars, as well as from his being sometimes coated all over with mud; but he continues to follow zealously the particular bus of his affections, the dog-star of the destinies of which he apparently considers himself to be.

A MURDERER FELL IN PAOLI, Indiana, a few days ago, caught up his little daughter and threw her across the room, injuring her severely and perhaps fatally. Now that he is sober, he declares that he will commit suicide if the child dies.

## Building Societies in England.

It is estimated—for exact returns cannot be procured—that there are 2,000 building societies now in existence in England and Wales, the total number of members being 800,000, with a subscribed capital of over £9,000,000, a loan and deposit capital of over £3,000,000, total assets to the amount of £17,000,000, mortgage advances over £16,000,000, and a yearly income of more than £11,000,000. One society has nearly 17,000 members, and another 10,000. The income of a single society is over a million and a half of pounds. So great is the confidence of the public in these enterprises that many of them have reduced the rate of interest to four, and even three, per cent. to check the influx of deposits which still come flowing in. In various districts the banks find it difficult to compete with them. The *Saturday Review* says: "We hear of single advance, not only of thousands, but of twenty and thirty thousand pounds, being made by building societies, sometimes on the security of mills and factories; and there seems to be no doubt that they have become to a large extent middle-class organizations. On the other hand, the Commissioners report that the societies still do business mainly with the working classes, or with a class only slightly superior to them in station. In Birmingham, in Ashton-under-Lyne, and elsewhere, they have greatly encouraged the construction of houses for the working and lower middle classes. The statistics of these societies show that, notwithstanding our national reputation for improvidence, there is yearly an enormous sum in the shape of savings seeking a safe investment."

A STREET CAR GOSSIP.—A reporter of the *Pittsburg (Pa.) Chronicle* has been listening when he ought to have been better employed. What he heard is as follows: We found ourselves next to two ladies evidently on their way to attend a funeral, who, in the half hour's ride, conversed of nothing but death and burial. It appeared that one of them only a short time previously had been nigh unto death's door, and indeed she showed signs of it yet. Her companion spoke of the practice of attending funerals, and commented severely upon persons who would stick themselves into carriages to the exclusion of nearer relatives to a possibly poor family that could not afford a large turnout of vehicles. For herself, she kept back, unless a family that had plenty, and consequently sufficient carriages for all. "The spoke of her father's goodness in attending funerals, and averred that he never failed to be present at the burial of a friend or acquaintance. "Indeed," said she, "papa would always go if it took the last cent in the house. And now that you are well," she continued, "for if you were not well I shouldn't think of telling you—we had it all fixed to go to your funeral, for we were sure you were going to die." The lady to whom this rather dismal news was communicated, quietly expressed surprise, but we doubt if she felt the gratification expected by the exhibition of such kindness on the part of her friend.

STRUCK BY A WHALE.—An unusual, although by no means unprecedented occurrence, says an Australian paper, is reported by Captain Lockyer, of the bark King Oscar. His account of it is as follows: The bark sailed from Hobart Town on the 13th ult., and on the 15th, when 30 miles to the eastward, off Cape Howe, sighted a large sperm whale, distant about 300 yards, and proceeding in the same direction. The monster fish remained in company some considerable time—4 days, it is said—and finally it was seen to lift its head out of water and make a furious dash at the vessel, striking her with tremendous force, and careening her over several strakes. Those who felt the shock compare it to the striking of a vessel on a rock. The pumps were at once sounded, but at first it was supposed no material damage was done; subsequent sounding showed, however, that the bark was making water at the rate of six inches an hour, and this she continued to do up to the date of arrival.

MURDER BY WHOLESALE.—Some days since two men, named Tulden and Anderson, were murdered in Caldwell, Sumner County, Kansas, by a man named McCarty, who escaped into the Indian Territory. A Vigilance Committee immediately set out in pursuit, found, and shot him. After the return of the vigilants from their excursion, a shooting affray occurred at Wellington, in which a man named Jack Lynch shot and wounded two men, Hopkins and Clark, and received two wounds himself. Lynch was arrested. The affair coming to the knowledge of the Committee, they marched over to Wellington, a distance of 20 miles, took Lynch from the officers having him in custody, and hung him.

THE DIFFERENCE.—A neat, clean, fresh, sweet, cheerful, well-arranged house exerts a moral influence over its inmates, and makes the members of a family peaceable and considerate of each other's feelings and happiness. The connection is obvious between the state of mind thus produced and respect for others, and for those higher duties and obligations which no law can enforce. On the contrary, a filthy, squalid, noxious dwelling, in which none of the decencies of life are observed, contributes to make its inhabitants selfish, quarrelsome, and regardless of the feelings of others; and the constant indulgence of such passions renders them reckless and brutal.

NOVEL SCENE IN A COURT-ROOM.—The *Providence Journal* says: An unusual scene took place during the trial of the case of *Burges vs. Anderson*. The case is brought to recover moneys won at various times from the plaintiff at faro by fraudulent practices. The plaintiff used, as an illustration of the technicalities of the game, a complete faro table, with its marking apparatus and silver cue-ke, er's box. An expert, Mr. Daniel H. Helme, took his seat at the table and played the game, the counsel and other spectators won their bets, although luck was largely in favor of the bank. He then took a set of "strippers," that is, a pack in which certain of the cards were trimmed at the Jes to an edge, unobservable to the eye but easily perceived by the touch of the dealer. By this device the dealer knew the position of any card, and by dealing two at a time when necessary, was able to make the opposite players lose at will. This false deck of cards being inserted into the box, the spectators, betting at choice against the bank, found that the dealer distributed the favors of fortune all to himself, and were at once convinced how immoral a thing gambling is. The expert testified that he had been in the service of the defendant, and had used the "strippers" to defraud the innocent customers. The defendant denies the use of the "skin game" at his place, and says the story of the expert is a fabrication resulting from a personal enmity. However that may be, that such a sordid game is possible seemed to be pretty clearly demonstrated in open court.

ROMANTIC INCIDENT.—The Rev. Dr. Adams, in his book of "Thanksgiving Memories," gives us the following incident: "In the Cathedral of Limerick there hangs a chime of bells, which were cast in Italy by an enthusiastic monk, who, fixed his home near the monastery where they were first hung, that he might enjoy their sweet and solemn music. In some political revolution the bells were taken away to some distant land, and the maker himself became a refugee and exile. His wanderings brought him, after many years, in Ireland. On a calm and beautiful evening, as the vessel which bore him floated on the placid bosom of the Shannon suddenly the evening chimes pealed forth from the cathedral towers. His experienced ear caught the sweet sounds, and he knew that his lost treasures were found. His early home, his old friends, his beloved and native land, all the best associations of his life were in those sounds. He laid himself back in the boat, crossed his arms upon his breast, and listened to the music. The boat reached the wharf, but still he lay there, silent and motionless. They spoke to him, but he did not answer. They went to him, but his spirit had fled. The tide of memories that came vibrating through his heart at that well-known chime had snapped its life-strings." It was this incident that suggested to Moore his song of "The Evening Bells."

A COMPREHENSIVE WORD.—One day last autumn old Smilax kept his boy out from school to assist in digging potatoes. The rust had struck the tubers, and Smilax feared that decay might set in if they were not speedily dug. When the boy next attended school his father sent him a note explaining why he had been taken from his studies; and in this explanation a due statement of the potato disease was given. Mr. Syntax, the teacher, was a crusty, irate man, and upon beholding a full page of cramped caligraphy, where a very brief excuse might have sufficed, he was wroth; and he said to the boy: "Tell your father not to write such a mess as this again. If he has occasion to keep you away from school hereafter, a single word of explanation as to the cause of your absence will be sufficient." A few days afterwards old Smilax went at his second field of potatoes, and claimed the assistance of his son, as before. When the lad next appeared at school he bore to Mr. Syntax a note from his father containing this single comprehensive word, and nothing more: "Kept at masting."

SMALL-POX.—In Dublin, the small-pox continues its ravages with unabated violence and intensity, being most fatal to children under two years of age. A letter from Dr. Speedy to the guardians of the North Dublin Union bears strong testimony to the value of revaccination. "I have," he says, "revaccinated 1,400 persons during the past three months, a large proportion of whom had good marks of primary vaccination, yet in these individuals excellent vesicles were formed, and among all no case of small-pox occurred."

It is stated as a medical fact that persons addicted to the use of intoxicating drinks are more liable to be attacked by this loathsome disease than those of abstemious lives and regular habits.

THE YOUNG.—The Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been distributing prizes among the pupils in the public schools of Boston who have produced the best compositions on the subject of kindness to animals. This literary exercise is presumed to develop in them a disposition to treat household pets with proper consideration, but according to our experience, nobody is so expert at fine preaching and villainous practice on the same subject as small boys. We should not be surprised to learn that the recipient of the first prize went home and tied the teakettle to the dog's tail or treated the cat to a dose of ginger.

## Murdered by Burglars.

Chas. H. Phelps, a jeweler of New York was killed by burglars who were attempting to rob his house. Hearing a noise Mr. P. made a search and had reached the recess under the stairs which led to the third floor when he saw two men rush past. One was instantly seized by Mr. Phelps, and a struggle ensued. While Mr. Phelps was struggling with this thief his confederate came to his assistance and seized Mr. Phelps by the arms. The first thief then rushed down stairs, ran out of the hall door and escaped. Mr. Phelps clung to the other, and a terrible struggle for the mastery ensued. The thief was the more powerful man of the two, and Mr. Phelps, finding that he was getting the best of him, shouted for a friend in the house to come to his assistance. The friend heard the call and started to come down the steps. At this the thief redoubled his exertions to free himself from the grasp of Mr. Phelps. Finding that he could not do so in time to escape from the other gentleman, who by this time was half way down the steps, he pulled a revolver from his breast pocket, and placing the muzzle close to Mr. Phelps' breast fired. The shock caused Mr. Phelps to loosen his hold, and the thief darted for the stairs. Physicians were called who declared Mr. Phelps' wound mortal. His wife, who was in Syracuse, was telegraphed for to come home, and his daughter, who was at boarding-school, was sent for. On her arrival she fainted away, and was with difficulty revived.

LAZZING A WILD BULL.—We breakfasted a little before seven, says a correspondent, writing from California, and then went out on the great common to see two vaqueros lasso a wild bull. They very nearly separated the animal from the herd, drove it at full tilt towards us, and, when it threatened to run us down, whizzed the *riata*, and, though I looked with all my eyes, I saw nothing except that the animal stopped in mid career, and tumbled over as though it were shot. Thereupon the vaquero coolly got off his horse, first winding the end of the *riata* about the pommel of his saddle, and then upon I saw the most curious part of the whole business. The horse, a mere pony, stood with its fore legs planted firmly, and a very knowing look in his eyes. Presently the bull began to struggle; he managed, by a sudden motion, to raise himself half erect; but the horse quickly took a step backward, tightened the rope, and down went the bull. This was repeated several times, till I did not know which most to admire, the horse or the man who had so thoroughly taught it.

LOWEST TYPE OF HUMANITY.—On the Island of Borneo has been found a certain race of wild creatures, of which kindred varieties have been discovered in the Philippine Islands, in Terra del Fuego, and in South America. They walk usually, almost erect on two legs, and in that attitude measure about four feet in height. They are dark, wrinkled and hairy. They construct no habitation, form no families, scarcely associate together, sleep in caves and trees, feed on snakes and vermin, on ant's eggs and on each other. They cannot be tamed or forced to any labor, and are hunted and shot among the trees like the great gorilla, of which they are a stunted copy. When they are captured alive, one finds with surprise that their uncouth jabbering sounds like articulate language. They turn up a human face to gaze at their captors, and the females show instincts of modesty; and, in fine, these wretched beings are men.

EVERY MAN TO HIS TRADE.—An ingenious but over-conceited man undertook to mend a tin tea-kettle. He had seen tinkers do the thing, and knew he could do it too. In prodding around the bottom of the kettle for weak places, he found one where he least expected it, and ran the bradawl through his finger. Whereupon he howled with anguish and dropped the kettle on the head of his infant son, lying prone on the floor at his feet chewing a rubber rattle. The infant's head was badly cut, and, in the excitement which followed, another young Purcell managed to tip over the ladder and catch about a spoonful of it in his little shoe, and added his lusty yells to the family chorus. The unhappy Purcell tied up his finger, put sticking plaster on the baby's head, plastered ointment on the boy's foot, and left the tea-kettle at the tin-shop on his way to the doctor's.

RULES FOR BUSINESS MEN.—From some published "Rules for Business Men" we extract the following in relation to advertising: Take advantage of modern facilities. Use the means within your reach; increase and multiply the means of information. To compete successfully with a neighbor, participate in the facilities afforded to go ahead. Don't depend upon your own lungs alone; use the lungs of the press. Make it known by printer's ink that you are prepared to do business. Sell at small profits for cash, and make it known through the newspapers. All that any honest, legitimate concern requires is good judgment, close industry, unwavering integrity, superior workmanship, fair prices, and to do better by customers, if possible, than others in the same business—and give it publicity.

## Farmhouse Notes.

A SUGGESTION FOR COUNTY SOCIETIES.—The *American Agriculturist* thinks the dairy business of this country is not on a satisfactory footing, by any means, and solely because of the multitude of poor cows, which are kept year after year. This, it says, is a matter worthy the attention of the County Agricultural Societies. Every one of these associations should introduce improved stock, by means of thoroughbred male animals, into their localities. It is a good work to elevate the ideas of farmers and to foster a taste for improvements, but to the great majority of their clients the possession of such a stock, or the use of it, is quite unattainable, on account of want of the necessary means. By making this a special branch of their operations, the usefulness of these societies would be much increased, and their importance greatly enhanced.

BEST METHOD WITH OBSTINATE BUTTER.—A Virginia contributor writes as follows for the benefit of a farmer correspondent who detailed his troubles in churning and asked "how to make the butter come quickly." Having been a sufferer from the same annoyance, and having discovered a very simple remedy, and one which in our case has proved entirely successful, I think it right to make it known. It is simply to place in each two-gallon jar of cream one pint of buttermilk. My wife, following the good old Virginia style, delights in taking charge of the dairy department after it comes from the stable to the house. She has the milk skimmed into gallon crocks and placed in the cellar for twenty-four hours, then skims the cream, which is put into two-gallon jars, to each of which one pint of the buttermilk of the last churning is added, keeps the cream at about a temperature of sixty-five degrees, until it gets to the consistency of clabber, which generally takes about forty-eight hours, when with but little trouble the old-fashioned dasher brings the golden butter.

HOW TO PRESERVE EGGS FOR HATCHING.—Having been a long time in the business of raising fancy poultry, I, like many others, have suffered much from the eggs being chilled at about this season of the year. As fancy eggs are now in demand, or soon will be, it is of vital importance to the breeder to know how to preserve his eggs which are now being laid, so as to be able to supply the urgent demand; for every person wants eggs at about the same time, and wants them with the germ of vitality unimpaired. This is a very simple process. I am, and have long been, a breeder of fancy poultry, and this is my method: Let every nest have a good bottom of waste paper, which, of course, is to be covered with straw; look sharp after the eggs, and after allowing the animal heat to subside about half, pack in a box in a cellar, in a dry place, with any kind of dry waste paper. When you want to ship, procure pasteboard boxes, and pack the eggs in paper shavings; then wrap in as much as a dozen thicknesses or more of paper, and tie tight; this prevents to a great extent concussion, which destroys so many eggs shipped to a distance. Eggs thus packed may be sent through a zero temperature without danger of being chilled in the transit. All intelligent persons know that paper is a non-conductor. Let those who do not know this fact place a common newspaper or two between the bed-clothes and remove a heavy blanket or quilt at the same time, and they will soon satisfy themselves beyond doubt. —Country Gentleman.

MEXICO.—I asked an intelligent member of the Mexican Congress, says William Cullen Bryant, how it was that instead of submitting quietly to the result of an election as we here submit, even when it is pretty manifest that the successful party has used unfair means, his countrymen so often resort to the sword, as if the question of fairness could be settled by cutting each others' throats. "It is in our blood," he answered; "it is owing to the impatience of our temperament. The cure must be to invite emigration from countries like the United States, where the popular vote decides the matter, and the beaten party takes its revenge by obtaining the majority at the next election." The remedy is a sure one, but there is this difficulty in applying it, that the emigrants will not arrive until the evil shall be already cured, and the country in a state of perfect quiet.

A VIGILANCE COMMITTEE.—Nowadays, says a New York paper, the terrible crime of murder is veiled under so many flimsy legal disguises that the very fundamental laws of society seem to be disregarded by those who are supposed to be the guardians of law. A vigilance committee in the metropolis of America may seem an extraordinary institution in the present so-called age of progress and civilization, but when life and property are regarded as mere trifles by judges and policemen, we may yet see Judge Lynch enter here. Meanwhile, the dangerous classes rejoice at the bounteous harvest spread before them, and peaceable and honest citizens lose all confidence in the creatures placed over them under the misnomer of "guardians of the peace."

GOATS.—A California journal tells a story of a gentleman who, having gone extensively into the Angora goat business, built a spacious corral, and erected waterproof sheds to protect his property from the weather. When the first heavy storm came he drove the goats into the corral at night. But on going, late in the evening, to look after them, not a goat could he find. Just as he was about to go away, greatly disturbed, he happened to lift his lantern and his eyes upward, and he beheld the entire flock of goats perched on the top of his carefully constructed shed, and evidently enjoying the heavy storm which was pouring down.

A TERRIBLE explosion of petroleum and gunpowder has taken place in Tripolitza, Greece. Twenty lives were lost instantly, and many persons received severe injuries, which in some cases, it is feared, will prove fatal.

## Brevities.

Whatever you dislike in another take care to correct in yourself.

Troubles are like dogs, the smaller they are the more they annoy you.

Genius unexalted is no more genius than a bushel of acorns is a forest of oaks.

The Brewers' Association of the United States represents a capital of \$300,000,000.

A good word is an easy obligation; but not to speak ill requires only silence, which costs us nothing.

A Connecticut editor offers to "vaccinate, free of charge, all new, prepaying subscribers to his paper for thirty days.

At Clear Lake, Iowa, on the first of May, every citizen was expected to bring at least one tree and plant it in the public square.

The greatest treasure is contentment; the greatest luxury is health; the greatest comfort is sleep; and the best medicine is a true friend.

Josh Billings says: "If a man has got eighty thousand dollars at interest, and owns the house he lives in, it ain't much trouble to be a philosopher."

When the Prince de Conde was told that his enemies called him a deformity, "How do they know that?" he said; "they have never seen my back."

Turquoise necklaces, rings, and earrings are the most fashionable style of jewelry worn at present, and are beautifully set with pearls and diamonds.

Lord Baxfield, the Scotch judge, once said to an eloquent culprit at the bar: "You're a vera clever chiel, mon; but I'm thinking ye wad be none the waur o' a hangin'."

All the new spring bonnets are trimmed with an elegant culprit at the bar. The favorite combination of colors seems to be a delicate shade of blue and rose color.

A new dance just introduced into social circles, is called "The Baltimore Cotillon," and promises to be a rival to the hitherto popular dance known as the "Boston Dip."

A new style of earring is composed of three hoops, one within the other, the first ring being studded with small diamonds, the second ring of pearls and the third of turquoise.

The longest bridge in the world is on the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad, between Texas station and Mobile. It rests on iron cylinders, has ten draws, and is fifteen miles in length.

A resolution was offered before the American Medical Association by Dr. Harner, of Virginia, and adopted, that members of the association should discourage the use of alcohol for stimulants in their remedies.

A bright little girl at Milton, Wisconsin, having been desired to write a sentence introducing the word "carriage," presented the following to her teacher: "Bad children often carrie in church when they ought to be quiet."

On the first of May the U. S. Department of Agriculture completed its distribution of seeds in the entire country. This was much earlier than usual. The Department cannot, therefore, comply with the present requests for supplies.

A lady teacher in an Iowa school lately punished a boy for kissing the big girls by making him stand up before all the scholars and show how it was done. She found this policy wouldn't work. The boys thought it capital punishment, and it had to be abolished.

A gentleman in London lately in making return of his income to the Tax Commissioners, wrote on the paper: "For the last three years my income has been somewhat less than £150; in the future it will be more p'curious, as the man is dead from whom I borrowed the money."

It costs something to be elected in the British House of Commons. In a recent contest in Yorkshire the legitimate expenses of the successful candidate were officially reported at \$53,615, while the unsuccessful antagonist had had to pay \$42,150. A member of parliament receives no salary or pecuniary allowance of any sort.

THE HORSES.—All good people will fully indorse these, *The Ohio Farmer's* remarks on humanity to old horses: It is a common practice in this country to make old horses break the colt and too often work with them for years. It is hard for an old horse to work with a colt or a young active horse. Old horses, like old men, are often capable of performing more hard work than some young ones, who can beat them for an hour or more. The old man wants to take a moderate jog and can hold out all day, but a little immoderate exertion for a few minutes unstrings him perhaps for all day. An old horse driven at the top of his speed a few miles spoils the day's journey. When once made sore or strained, the result is stiffness the next day. The old horse should not haul his load to town and then be forced to trot back. It does not injure him as much to do the heavy work with slow motion as to do the light jobs at the fast gait. Again, the old horse requires more time to eat his meals and rest his nerves. Of all animals the old horse is the worst abused. Although he has been the most faithful and profitable servant, yet in his old age the lash is applied to force a youthful vigor long gone. The older he grows the more he feels the lash. He is often turned out of doors to give place to the colts. All these things are inhuman and shameful.

A young man in Philadelphia was the victim of misplaced confidence a short time ago. He was particularly sweet on a very young lady, and called one evening, having previously paid her several visits. The girl's parents thinking both too young to keep company with each other, gave a gentle hint to that effect—first by calling the girl out of the room, and sending her to bed; and secondly, by the lady of the house bringing into the room a huge slice of bread and butter spread with jam, and saying to the youth, in her kindest manner, "There, take this and go home; it is a long way, and your mother will be anxious."